

IN THE CLAIMS:

33. (Amended Once) In an electric conductor having a coating layer with the property of strippability so that it can be stripped from said electric conductor, a method for controlling said strippability of said coating layer from said electric conductor, the electrical insulation properties of said cable coating being kept constant after exposure to moisture, said method comprising adding to a polymeric composition forming said coating layer a predetermined amount of a polyolefinic compound, which contains at least one unsaturation and at least one carboxyl group in the polymer chain.

34. (New) The method of claim 33 where said polyolefinic compound which contains at least one unsaturation and at least one carboxyl group in the polymer chain is derived from the polymerization of a diene or polyene monomer containing from 4 to 16 carbon atoms, said carboxyl group derived from reaction of a carboxylated compound with said unsaturated polyolefin, said carboxylated compound containing at least one carboxyl group.

35. (New) The method of claim 34 wherein said diene or polyene monomers are butadiene, pentadiene, hexadiene, hexatriene, heptadiene, heptatriene, oxtadiene, octatriene, and mixtures thereof.

36. (New) The method of claim 35 where said polymers have a polymerization number of 10 to 1000.

37. (New) The method of claim 36 where said polymers have a polymerization number of 20 to 50.

38. (New) The method of claim 35 where said diene or polyene monomers are 1,3-butadiene, 1,3 pentadiene, 1,4-pentadiene, 1,3-hexadiene, 1,4-hexadiene, 1,5-hexadiene, or 2,4-hexadiene.

39. (New) The method of claim 37 wherein said monomer is 1,3-butadiene.

40. (New) The method of one of claims 34, 35, 38 or 39 wherein said carboxylated compound is an anhydride of an unsaturated carboxylic or unsaturated dicarboxylic acid.

41. (New) The method of one of claims 34, 35, 38, and 39 where said carboxylated compound is maleic anhydride.

42. (New) The method of one of claims 34, 35, 38, or 39 wherein said carboxylated compound is benzoic anhydride.

43. (New) The method of one of claims 34, 35, 38 or 39 wherein said carboxylated compound is acetic anhydride.

REMARKS

The amendments to claim 33 follow the amendments to claim 65 filed on August 30, 2000 in the parent application. The claims added by this amendment, claims 34-45, describe the polyolefinic material of claim 33, which pages 15 and 16 of the written description support.